

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance

BRIC & FMA

Massachusetts Emergency
Management Agency
November 2023



What is Hazard Mitigation?



- Providing increased level of protection that will reduce or eliminate risk
- Adapting to natural hazards
- Protecting people, structures and infrastructure from future hazards
- Maintaining consistency with resiliency and sustainability principles
- Minimizing the costs of disaster response and recovery
- Saving lives and money!

SMART INVESTING **MITIGATION SAVES**



Natural Hazard Mitigation Saves: 2017 Interim Report
nibs.org/mitigationsaves



National Institute of
BUILDING SCIENCES



FEMA

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

- Hazard mitigation funding for states, tribal governments, and local communities/special district governments
- Initiated in 2020 (under the Disaster Recovery Reform Act)
- Establishes an annual national competitive award
 - Qualitative and quantitative evaluation criteria
 - Between \$500 Million - \$2 Billion in grant funding awarded annually
 - Funds projects up to \$50 Million (Federal Share)
 - Projects can be up to 36 months - longer durations may be possible
- Announced by an Annual Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
 - Statement of Interest due on November 20, 2023
 - Subapplications due to MEMA January 8, 2024

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

- Funding for projects that reduce or eliminate risk of flood damage to buildings that are insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
- Community must participate in NFIP
- Nationwide Competitive Review Process
- Same timeline as BRIC
- Announced by an Annual Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
- Statement of Interest due November 20, 2023
- Subapplications due to MEMA January 8, 2024

BRIC versus FMA

| BRIC | FMA |
|---|---|
| Annual/Non-Disaster | |
| Nationally Competitive / State Allocation | Nationally Competitive |
| General State Allocation, Building Code State Allocation, Mitigation Project National Competition | Capability & Capacity Building, Localized Flood Risk Reduction, Individual Flood Mitigation National Competitions |
| \$50 Million Project Cap | |
| FEMA GO Sub application | |
| Innovative Mitigation Projects | Benefits NFIP-insured Properties (Requires Privacy Agreement) |
| BCA REQUIRED (for projects); note additional considerations in FEMA NOFOs | |

Hazard Mitigation Planning



Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide

FP 206-21-0002

Released April 19, 2022, Effective April 19, 2023

OMB Collection #1660-0062



- First phase in the mitigation process
- Helps establish mitigation strategy and outline priorities for identifying mitigation activities
- Identifies potential projects relative to hazard risk
- **An approved Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) is required in order to apply for BRIC or FMA funding (at application deadline and at award)**

Hazard Mitigation Program and Policy Guide



Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Post Fire,
Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities, and Flood Mitigation
Assistance

Effective March 23, 2023

Version 1.1 - Updated September 22, 2023

Federal Enterprise Architecture (FEA) Number: FP-206-21-0001



FEMA

Eligible Activities (project types)

(see 2023 HMA Program and Policy Guide for full list)

| Mitigation Projects | | BRIC | FMA |
|---|---|------|-----|
| | Property Acquisition | X | X |
| | Structure Elevation | X | X |
| | Mitigation Reconstruction | X | X |
| | Flood Risk Reduction Measures | X | X |
| | Stabilization | X | X |
| | Dry Floodproofing (Non-Residential Buildings) | X | X |
| | Tsunami Vertical Evacuation | X | |
| | Safe Rooms | X | |
| | Wildfire Mitigation | X | |
| | Retrofitting | X | X |
| | Secondary Power Source | X | |
| | Early Warning Systems | X | |
| | Aquifer Recharge, Storage and Recovery | X | X |
| | Innovative Mitigation Projects | X | X |
| | | | |
| Capability and Capacity Building Projects | | BRIC | FMA |
| | New Hazard Mitigation Plans | X | |
| | Hazard Mitigation Plan Updates | X | |
| | Planning Related Activities | X | X |
| | Project Scoping / Advance Assistance | X | X |
| | Financial Technical Assistance | | X |
| | Direct Non-Financial Technical Assistance | X | |
| | Partnerships | X | X |
| | Codes & Standards | X | |
| | Innovative Capability and Capacity Building | X | X |

What is NOT Eligible for HMA?

(see 2023 HMA Program and Policy Guide for full list)

- Projects that do not reduce the risk to people, structures, or infrastructure.
- Projects that are dependent on another action to be effective.
- Projects which are considered repair, deferred maintenance, or replacement of existing infrastructure.
- Preparedness measures and response equipment.
- Projects where actual physical work has already started.
- Projects located in Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) Units or in otherwise protected areas (OPAs), other than property acquisition.
- Projects that involve land that is contaminated with hazardous waste.
- Projects that primarily address ecological or agricultural issues.

HMA Project Requirements



Mitigate a Natural Hazard



Demonstrates an increase in Level of Protection (LOP)



Feasible to Implement - *Regulatory* - *Design* - *Construction*



Cost Effective



Must comply with Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP)

Questions



Culvert Upgrade: Becket

This project included the upgrade of an undersized culvert with a new metal arch culvert which meets the Massachusetts Stream Crossing Standards.

Project was funded through the HMGP program.

Completed Summer 2017.



Before



After

Soil Stabilization: Chelmsford

Merrimack River
Bank Stabilization
project that focused
on the protection of
a critical sewer line.

Project was
funded through
the HMGP
program.

Completed
Summer 2019.



Before



After

Flood Resiliency Retrofit: Hull

This project will elevate critical electrical assets at the Hull Wastewater Pollution Control Facility to an elevation above current flood elevation levels and above future flood elevations with sea-level rise.

Project is underway and being funded through the HMGP program.

Project is scheduled to be completed in Fall 2024.



Urban Drainage Upgrade:

Fall River

This project included partial combined sewer separation and drainage piping upgrades, new tree-box filters and bioswales, reducing neighborhood stormwater & critical facility flooding.

Project was funded through the HMGP program.

Completed Spring 2020.

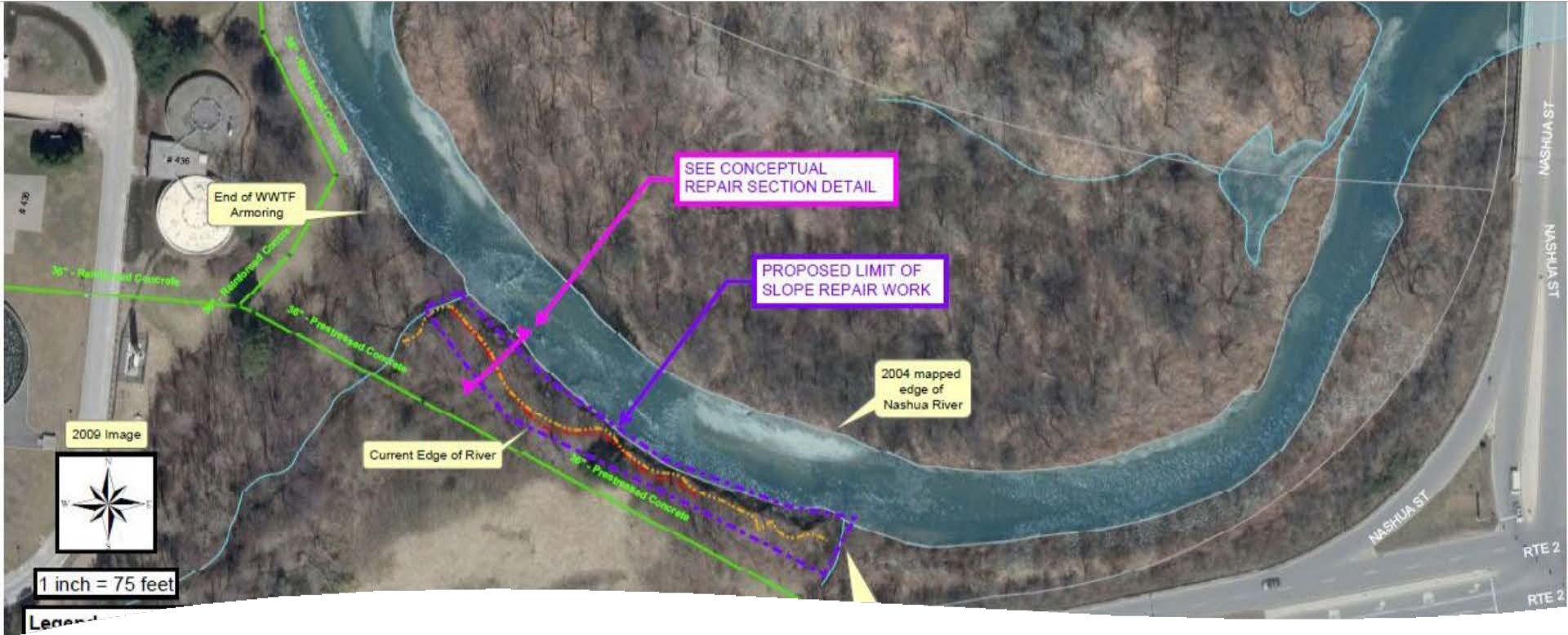


Middle Street Fall River

Before



After



Bank Stabilization: Leominster

Nashua River Bank Stabilization project focuses on the protection of a critical sewer line and wastewater treatment facility.

Project is underway and being funded through the HMGP program.

Project is scheduled to be completed in Fall 2023.

Structure Elevation: Scituate

- Structure elevation is identified as a hazard mitigation strategy.
- Homes must be structurally sound in order to elevate.
- Must meet NFIP, MSBC & ASCE 24-14 standards.
- Funded through FMA.

Before



After





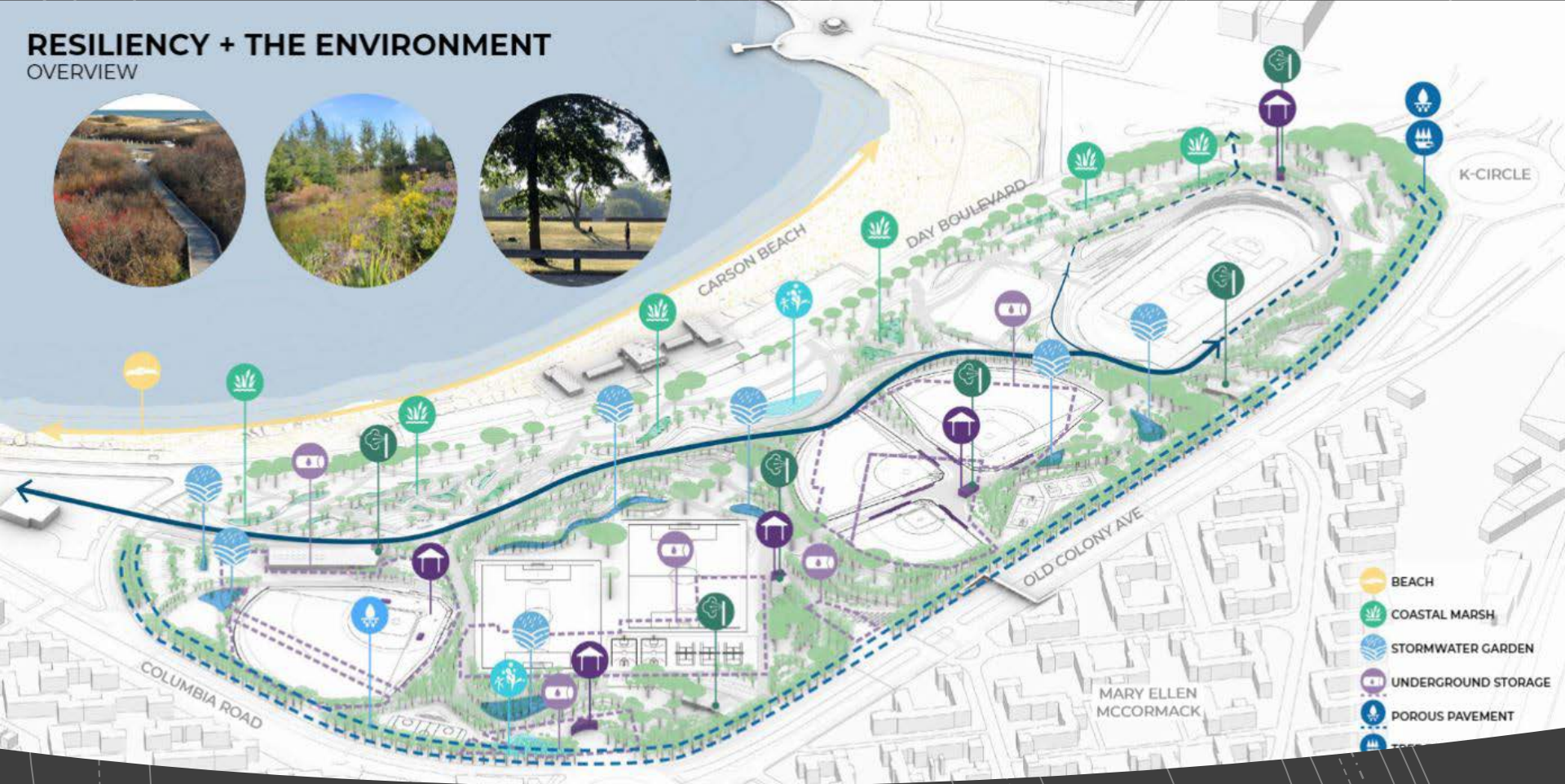
Central Street Bridge Upgrade and Central Pond / Sawmill Brook Restoration

Manchester-by-the-Sea
BRIC FY20

Project Benefits

- Flood Mitigation
- Channel Improvements
- Improved Wildlife Habitat
- Improved Public Access
- Increase in Fish Passage

RESILIENCY + THE ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW



Boston – Resilient Moakley Park
Identified for Further Review – BRIC FY21

Generators: Tewksbury

Sewer pump station generators purchased and installed to ensure wastewater flow during power outages.

Project was funded through the HMGP program.

Project completed in Summer 2021.



Non-Federal Cost Share



- Cost share is typically 25% of the total project for cost.
- Individual Flood Mitigation Projects may have increased Federal funding.
- Non-Federal cost share may include:
 - Local, state, or private cash payments (MVP Funding, Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance Funding, etc.)
 - For private homes, if there is a cost share, it would come from the homeowner
 - In-Kind Contributions (labor, equipment, materials, etc.)

What you need to know about FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grants:



MEMA is the conduit for applications and funding to and from FEMA. MEMA manages the State Contracts/Grant Awards.



The process from grant application to grant award can take several months to a year (or longer) - please be prepared.



It is the sub-applicant's responsibility to maintain, and keep current, their local hazard mitigation plan for eligibility.



It is the subrecipient's responsibility to ensure that proper procurement is undertaken for projects which use federal funds.

Procurement (2 CFR 200)

Additional Procurement
Information

[www.fema.gov/grants/
procurement](http://www.fema.gov/grants/procurement)

- All applicants must adhere to federal, state, and local procurement standards, whichever is most stringent.
- Procurement methods must be documented and submitted to MEMA, along with all contracts between the community and their contractors.
- Key areas to review for requirements: 2 CFR Part 200 sections 317-327.
- Pre-award costs must also comply in order to be eligible.
- Recipients and subrecipients must comply with the Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA).

Grant Funding Terms & Conditions



All FEMA HMA grants are managed on a reimbursement basis.



FEMA will award the grant to MEMA, and MEMA will execute a state contract with the community.



Quarterly reporting is required.



Any changes to the project scope, budget or other components must be approved by MEMA and FEMA prior to implementation.



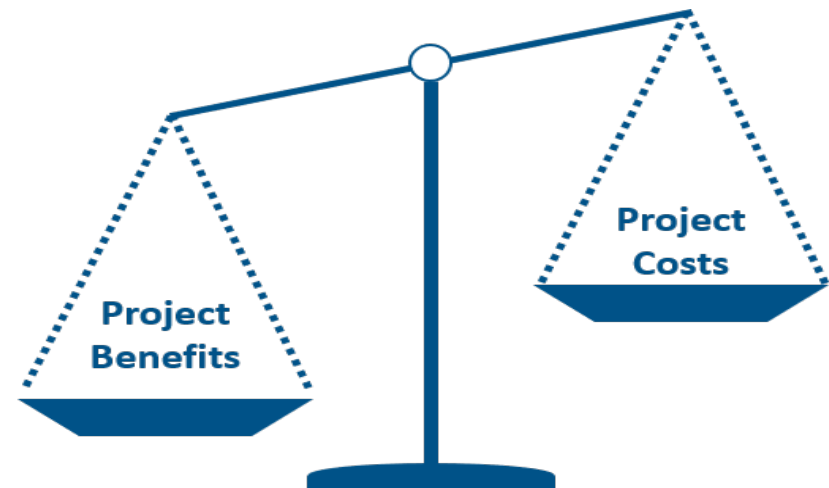
All environmental conditions imposed by FEMA must be strictly followed.



All bids, specifications, permits, procurement, sub-contracts, and as-built plans must be submitted to MEMA.

What is a Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) ?

- Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) is a method that quantifies the benefits (avoided losses) of a mitigation project compared to its costs
- Establishes the project's Cost Effectiveness (requirement is a BCR > 1)
- BCAs involve technical studies that require heavy data collection, supporting documentation development, and in many cases, engineering expertise
- BCAs are required for project subapplications (note additional considerations in FEMA NOFOs)



Expected Project Cycle

| | |
|---|---|
| Statement of Interest (SOI) Period | Deadline – November 20, 2023 |
| Sub-applicant Register with FEMA GO | November 1, 2023 |
| Federal Grant Application Period Opens | October 16, 2023, to January 8, 2024 |
| Sub-application Final Submittal | January 8, 2024 |
| State Review Committee | January to February 2024 |
| Submittal to FEMA for National Competitive Review | February 2024 |
| Award Notification for FY23 Cycle | Summer 2024 |
| Project Initiation | TBD: Starting Spring 2025 |

**Technical
Assistance**

**Technical Assistance
Available**

**Submit a Statement of
Interest (SOI)
on [MEMA's Website](#)**

MEMA Technical Assistance

Multi-Year Project Development Pipeline

- Integration with State and Local Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Coordination with other relevant state and local programs

Direct Support and Coordination with MEMA Mitigation Point of Contacts

Rolling/Open Statement of Interest (SOI) Process

Interagency Application Review

Multi-level Technical Assistance

- Education and Awareness
- Capacity Development
- Application Support
- Direct Technical Support

FEMA Grant Outcomes (FEMA GO)



- Sub-applications must be filed in FEMA Go with the legal name of the municipality (i.e. Town of x).
- The UEI registered name and address must match the legal name of the municipality.
- The UEI must be an Active Registration.
- FEMA GO Startup Guide
 - [fema-go startup-guide.pdf](#)
- Follow sub-application process
 - [FEMA GO Application and Subapplication Process Guide](#)

How to Set Up a FEMA GO Account in Three Easy Steps



- Register, renew OR confirm your SAM.gov account
- Obtain OR Confirm Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) in SAM.gov
- Visit go.fema.gov to create & register a new account

Still need help? Check out these resources.



Watch the FEMA GO Start Up Tutorial on Youtube

Explore SAM.gov self-help options online



Check out GSA's Federal Service Desk resources

Review the FEMA GO Start Up Guide



A large, stylized white graphic of a person with arms raised, set against a blue circular background. The figure is composed of simple shapes: a circle for the head and a larger, curved shape for the body and arms.

Program Support Materials

[MEMA Hazard Mitigation Website](#)

[Statement of Interest – Construction Projects](#)

[Statement of Interest – C&CB, Planning, Scoping](#)

[BRIC State Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)

[FMA State Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)

[Benefit-Cost Analysis \(BCA\) Download](#)

[HMA Program & Policy Guide](#)

[FEMA GO Portal](#)

[Sam.gov Registration / Information](#)

[Federal Procurement Information](#)

BCA Helpline – bchelpline@fema.dhs.gov

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[MEMA Hazard Mitigation Website](#)

Questions

